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REMARKS

In the present Office Action, 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 15-19 and 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,615,370 (hereinafter Edwards) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0143455 (hereinafter Bidner); claims 27, 28, 31, 32, 36, 37 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards and Bidner and in further view of page 488 of the IBM Dictionary of Computing (hereinafter IBM); claims 3 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Edwards, Bidner and IBM and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,760,884 (hereinafter Wood); claims 4 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Edwards, Bidner and IBM and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,687,811 (hereinafter Yamada); claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Edwards, Bidner and IBM and on official notice that it was well known to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to protect volatile memory from data loss during normal operation; claims 7-11, 13, 14, 20, 22, 33-35 and 38 were objected to as being depended upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims; and independent claim 40 was allowed.

Applicants wish to express their appreciation to the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. With this Reply, Applicants have canceled claims 14 and 33; amended independent claim 1 to include the subject matter of canceled dependent claim 14, which was objected to; amended dependent claim 22 for clarification; amended independent claim 27 to include the subject matter of canceled claim 33, which was objected to; and amended dependent claims 34 and 35 to depend upon independent claim 27, instead of canceled dependent claim 33.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-13, 15-32 and 34-40 are all now allowable. No new matter has been entered with the amendment to the claims.

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CONCLUSION


For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-13, 15-32 and 34-40 are now allowable. If the Examiner has any questions or comments with respect to this reply, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 949-9610.

Respectfully submitted,

W. JAMES ALLEN ET AL.

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